

# *Executive Proclamation*

## *State of South Dakota*

### *Office of the Governor*

*Whereas*, Emergency medical services are vital public services; and,

*Whereas*, Members of emergency medical service teams stand ready to provide lifesaving care to those in need 24 hours a day, 7 days a week; and,

*Whereas*, Access to quality emergency care provided by these teams dramatically improves the survival and recovery rates of those who experience sudden illness or injury; and,

*Whereas*, Emergency medical services providers have traditionally served as the safety net of America's health care system; and,

*Whereas*, Emergency medical services teams include emergency physicians, emergency nurses, emergency medical technicians, paramedics, firefighters, educators, administrators, and others; and,

*Whereas*, Approximately two-thirds of all emergency medical service providers are volunteers; and,

*Whereas*, Both career and volunteer emergency medical services providers devote thousands of hours to specialized training and continuing education to enhance their lifesaving skills; and,

*Whereas*, South Dakotans benefit daily from the knowledge and skills of these highly trained individuals; and,

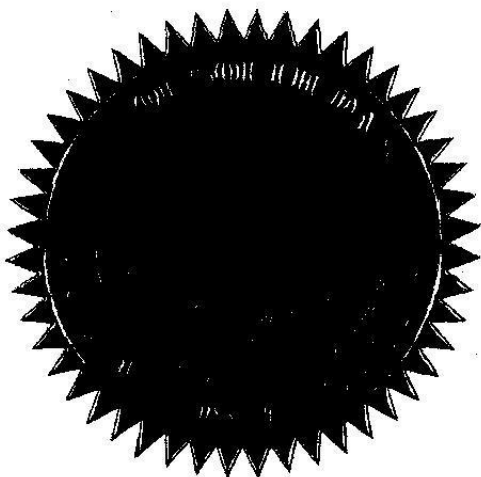
*Whereas*, The appropriate use of the emergency medical services system can help reduce health care costs; and,

*Whereas*, It is appropriate to recognize the value and accomplishments of emergency medical services providers:

*Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim May 16-22, 2004, as*

### ***EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK***


in South Dakota, and I encourage the community to observe this week with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.



*In Witness Whereof*, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-second Day of March in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

  
M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

  
Chris Nelson, Secretary of State